

AN ACCURATE
DESCRIPTION
OF THE
BRITISH COLONIES
IN
NORTH-AMERICA:

Comprehending an Account of

NEW BRITAIN,
CANADA,
NOVA SCOTIA,
NEW ENGLAND,
NEW YORK,
NEW JERSEY,

PENNSYLVANIA,
MARYLAND,
VIRGINIA,
N. and S. CAROLINA,
GEORGIA, and
E. and W. FLORIDA.

ALSO THEIR

DIVISIONS, chief TOWNS, principal CAPES, BAYS,
HARBOURS, RIVERS, &c. &c.

WITH THE

CLIMATE, SOIL, PRODUCTIONS,

AND

DIFFERENT KINDS OF ANIMALS.

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CTION to the COMMON-PRAYER. And as something of this Kind is
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School-masters, &c. will observe, that at the Time they present a
young Person with a Common-Prayer Book, it be accompanied with
the aforesaid Introduction, which is to be had only as above.



AN ACCURATE
DESCRIPTION
OF THE
BRITISH COLONIES
IN
NORTH-AMERICA, &c.

Containing their Boundaries, Division and chief Towns, principal Capes, Bays, Harbours, Rivers, &c. Climate, Soil, Productions, and different kinds of Animals, &c.

NEW BRITAIN

COMPREHENDS Labrador, New North and South Wales, &c. is bounded on the North by frozen seas and parts unknown; on the East by the Atlantic Ocean; on the South by Canada; but the West parts are yet unexplored.

No precise divisions have yet been made in the country forming this great portion of North-America; but it consists, indefinitely, of New Britain and New South Wales, on the South; New Denmark, New North Wales, and Prince William's Land, on the West; and of unknown arctic parts on the North; on the East lie New or West Greenland, belonging to Denmark, and part of the Atlantic Ocean: the whole inclosing the two vast bays called Hudson's and Baffin's, with the adjacent Straights, Islands, &c. On the lands bordering on Hudson's Bay, the company so called (consisting of about ten persons) have several forts and small settlements for the purpose of defending and carrying on their fur and peltry trade with the Indians, and their fishery; the chief are those on the rivers Churchill, Nelson, Albany, and Moose. The forts on New Severn and Rupert rivers are destroyed. The boundary of the Hudson's-Bay country runs from a certain promontory on the Atlantic Ocean in 58° N. lat. South-West to the lakes Mistassin

and Abitibis, then South-West to lat. 49° N. and thence due West indefinitely.

Capes: Chudley, Churchill, Dobbs, Hope, and Elizabeth's.—Bays: Great Bay of Eskimaux, Hudson's (including James's, Button's, Pistol, Wager, Rupert's or Repulse, the whole length about 530 leagues, breadth from 35 to 130 leagues), Baffin's-bay, Mistaken-bay, (in the Isle of Good-Fortune).—Straights: Belle Isle, Hudson's (between Labrador and the Isle of Good Fortune), Sir Thomas Roe's Welcome, Davis's (between James's Island and West Greenland), Baffin's, and Cumberland.—Rivers: St. John's, Eskimaux, Moose, Albany, New Severn, St. Thereas, or Hayes, Nelson, and Churchill.

The summer begins not till July, and ends in September; and, as spring and autumn may be said not to be known here, the rest of the year is winter, which reigns with uncontrouled rigour. The soil is rocky, producing little more than spruce and pine trees.

The animals are moose and rein-deer, bears, wolves, foxes, porcupines, mountain-cats, lynxes, martins, beavers, otters, hares, ermines, eagles, hawks, horn-owls, squirrels; all kinds of wild-fowl, geese, ducks, bustards, and partridges. In winter all the birds, beasts, &c. of these countries become white as the snow which then every where surrounds them; and, on the return of summer, they resume the different colours common to them in other parts of the world: nay, what may be thought more astonishing, the dogs and cats carried to Hudson's Bay from England experience the same changes, and their hair becomes much longer, softer, and thicker. In the seas are whales, seals, morfes, cod-fish, and a white fish preferable to a herring; in the rivers, salmon, pike, carp, trout, &c.

C A N A D A

IS bounded on the North by New Britain, &c. on the East by New Scotland, New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia; on the South East by the river Ohio; and on the West and South-West by Mississippi river. Its latitude is from 37° N. to the boundary of the Hudson's Bay Company; length upwards of 1800 miles; breadth uncertain.

Before the act of 1774 for settling this country, it was under three governments, viz. those of Quebec, Montreal, and Trois Rivières; but these are now united in one. The towns of note are Quebec, Montreal, and Trois Rivières.

Quebec, which is a city and the capital of the whole province, is situated at the confluence of the rivers St. Laurence and St. Charles, on the N. side of the former, about 107 leagues from the sea: It consists of an Upper and Lower Town, tolerably well built of stone, and contains 12 or 15,000 inhabitants.

bitants. In September, 1759, it was taken from the French by the English, but not without the loss of the glorious General Wolfe.—Montreal is built on an island of the same name, in the river St. Laurence, about 60 leagues S. of Quebec; it is also divided into an Upper and Lower Town, well built and populous, but has suffered much by fire. It was taken from the French in 1760, by General Amherst.—Trois Rivières lies at the confluence of the three rivers so called, running into St. Laurence: it is much frequented by several nations of Indians, for the purpose of trading.—Amongst other fortresses erected by the French along the English settlements in these parts, are Crown Point, Ticonderago, and St. John's. During the present civil war the two former have been seized by the Provincials.

Lakes: The five principal, which communicate, are, Lake Superior, 500 leagues in circuit, Ontario, Erie, or Oswego, Huron, and Michigan, all navigable by vessels of any size, as are also their communications, except that between Erie and Ontario, where there is a stupendous cataract, called the Falls of Niagara. The water is about a mile wide, crossed by a rock in the form of a half moon. The perpendicular fall is 170 feet; and so vast a body of water rushing down from so great a height, on rocks below, with prodigious reboundings, strikes the beholder with inexpressible amazement; the noise may be heard upwards of 15 miles.—The chief rivers are, the Outranais, St. John's, Seguinay, Desprairies, and Trois Rivières, all running into the great river St. Laurence; also the Ohio.

The climate and soil of this country, which is very extensive, vary according to its different latitudes; in general, however, the summers are extremely hot, particularly in the more Southern parts; the winters very cold, especially towards the North: yet both seasons are pleasant, the air being commonly clear. The soil, altogether, produces as follow: White and red pine trees; four species of fir; white cedar and oak; the free, mongrel, and bastard ash-trees; male and female maple; hard, soft, and smooth walnut-trees; beech-trees and white wood; white and red elm; poplars; cherry and plumb trees; the vinegar and cotton trees; and the white-thorn:—Sun-plants, gourds, melons, cappillaire, the hop-plant, alaco:—Tobacco, turkey-corn, most sorts of European grain, fruits, &c.

The animals are, deer, bears, stags, martins, buffaloes, porcupines, rattle-snakes, foxes, ferrets, hares, otters, wild-cats, ermines, goats, wolves, beavers, squirrels, &c.—Eagles, falcons, tercols, goshawks; grey, red, and black partridges with long tails; turkies, snipes, and variety of water fowl, &c. Canadian wood-peckers, larks, &c.—In the lakes and rivers are sea-wolves, sea-cows, porpoises, lencornets, sea-plaise, salmon, turtle, lobsters, sturgeons, gilthead, tunny, lampreys, mackarel, soals, anchovies, &c.

NOVA SCOTIA

IS bounded on the North by part of Canada; on the East by the Gulf of St. Laurence and Atlantic Ocean; on the South by the Atlantic Ocean; and on the West by New-England. Its latitude is between 43° and 49° N.; longitude between 60° and 67° W. from London; length, 350 miles; breadth, 250 miles.

The chief town in Nova Scotia is *Halifax*, so called from the Earl of that name, who was the principal promoter of the settlement. It was founded in the year 1749, by an embarkation of near 4000 families, who left England in May, and by the end of the ensuing October had erected no less than 350 comfortable and convenient houses. It is situated on Chebucto-bay, very commodiously for the fishery; and in it a strong garrison is kept, to protect the inhabitants, who are said to be about 16,000, from the ravages of the Indians.—Annapolis-Royal was formerly called Port-Royal by the French, but received its present name from the English in honour of Queen Anne, in whose reign it was taken by Colonel Nicholson.—There is only one more settlement here worthy mention, which is St. John's, at the mouth of the river of the same name.

Capes: Sable, St. Mary, Rosiers, Sambro, &c.—Numerous small lakes, but mostly without particular names.—Bays (including Fundy, Chenigto, and Green): Gaspee, Chaleur, Chedibucto, Verte, Chebucto, &c.—Rivers: Rissgouche, Nipisiguit, St. John, and St. Croix (separating this province from New England).—In Halifax harbour (in Chebucto bay), which is capable of containing 1000 vessels in security, the small squadron winters, which is kept in these parts.—The harbour of Annapolis-Royal, but for its very difficult entrance, would be one of the finest in the world.

The winter is almost insupportably long and cold, continuing full seven months; the summer altogether as hot; and for a great part of the year a gloomy fog surrounds the country. The soil is thin and poor, excepting in some few tracts, which are very good. It produces four species of fir-trees, two of which make good masts; white and red cedars; white and red oaks; the maple-tree, the sap of which is used by the inhabitants as a regale in their entertainments, and is reduced by the Indians into a kind of sugar by long boiling; wild cherry, elder, service, and three sorts of nut-trees; also beech, elm, and cypress, together with what is called the white-wood tree; currants, strawberries, raspberries, and gooseberries; hops; capillaire, organum, valerian, aconitum, and many other physical plants; also the black or vine of mount Ida, and the atoca.

The animals are deer, otters, and beavers; wild-fowl, and all sorts of game; the fléttau, goberge, requiem, herrings, sturgeon, and salmon; and along the coast of Cape Sable, where

where are excellent harbours, is a fine range of banks for cod-fishing.

The Island of CAPE-BRETON, in this province, is 110 miles long, and 80 broad.

Louisbourg, the only town of Cape-Breton, stands on the S. E. side of the island, and has regular and broad streets, with a large parade. In 1745 it was taken from the French by Adm. Warren, and the Americans under Lieut. Gen. Pepperell, but given up by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. During the last war, in 1758, it was again reduced by Admiral Boscawen and General Amherst, and still remains in the possession of the English, who have demolished its fortifications.

Cape-Breton has several good harbours, but the chief is that of Louisbourg, being four leagues in circuit, with six or seven fathoms water. The island is intersected by many creeks.

The soil of Cape-Breton is but indifferent: however, here is plenty of timber of various sorts, and numerous coal-pits.

NEW ENGLAND,

IS bounded on the North-East by Nova Scotia; on the East and South by the Atlantic Ocean; on the West by New York; and on the North and North West by Canada. Latitude between 41° and 49° N.; longitude between 67° and 74° W. from London; 550 miles long, and 200 broad.

Boston is situated upon a peninsula, joined to the continent by a neck of land about half a mile long, and 60 yards broad, which is the part where General Gage erected fortifications. The town stands at the bottom of a capacious harbour, defended from the violence of the sea by numerous small islands; is nearly two miles in length, and half a mile in breadth; contains about 3000 good houses, forming spacious streets, and 18 or 20,000 inhabitants; and, on the whole, has very much the appearance of the best county-towns in England. A light-house is erected on one of the islands, called the Brewsters, at the entrance of the harbour; as is also a castle, mounting about 150 cannon, on another island about three miles from the town: there are, moreover, several strong batteries about it; so that the approach to the town is well defended.

Cambridge has several good streets, but is chiefly remarkable for Harvard College, towards which the Rev. Mr. John Harvard, minister of Charles-Town, left a legacy of 800l. An additional building was afterwards erected at the expence of Mr. Stoughton, and from thence called Stoughton-Hall. Of these consists the university.

New-England consists of the four following Provinces:

New Hampshire (North division), *Rhode Island* (South divis.)
Massachusetts-Bay (Middle divis.), *Connecticut* (West division).

NEW HAMPSHIRE, though for the most part granted, and laid out in townships, is not yet formed into counties; nor are there but few places which will bear the denomination of towns; Portsmouth, Hampton, Litchfield, Dunstable, and Exeter, are the chief.

COUNTIES of *Massachusetts-Bay*, including the antient Colony of Plymouth; with the principal TOWNS.

York: (formerly the *Province of Main*):—York, Kittery, Wells, Biddisford, Falmouth, Yarmouth, Brunswick, with several forts.

Essex:—Salem, Marblehead, Lynn, Andover, Bradford, Haverill, Salisbury, Ipswich, Wenham, Gloucester, Newbery, Beverly, &c.

Middlesex:—Cambridge (an university), Charles-town (burnt by the King's troops, June 17, 1775), Concord, Lexington, Medford, Malden, Waltham, Woburn, Wilmington, Reading, Billerika, Groton, Chelsea, Weston, Stow, Marlborough, Sudbury, Sherburn, Natick, Holliston, &c.

Hampshire:—Northampton, Hadley, Hatfield, Sunderland, Deerfield, Northfield, Narraganset, Peterham, Pentusok, Springfield, Springfield East, Sheffield, &c.

Suffolk:—BOSTON, (the metropolis of New England), Roxbury, Dorchester, Milton, Brantree, Weymouth, Hingham, Konohasset, Stoughton, Wrentham, Walpole, Bellingham, Medway, Medfield, Deadham, &c.

Worcester:—Oxford, Leicester, Sutton; Rutland, Old Rutland, Westborough, Mendon, Uxbridge, Douglas, &c.

Ancient Colony of PLYMOUTH.

Plymouth:—Plymouth, Abingdon, Duxbury, Marshfield, &c.

Bristol:—Attleborough, Easton, Raynham, Bridgewater, Taunton, Dighton, Swansey, Dartmouth, Rochester, Barrington, Rehoboth, &c.

Barnstable:—Barnstable, Sandwich, Falmouth, Yarmouth, Harwich, Eastham, Silver-spring, Belingsgate, Truro, Chatham, &c.

Duke's County, or Island of Martha's Vineyard:—Edgar, Tisbury, Chilmark, &c.

Nantucket County and Island:—Sherburn, &c.

Besides the above, to the *Massachusetts-Bay* province also belongs the territory of Sagadahok, where, among other small settlements, are two forts, George's truck-house and Fort Frederick, with small garriçons.

COUNTIES, &c. of RHODE ISLAND, and PROVIDENCE PLANTATION.

Providence:—Providence, Warwick, Coventry, Scituate, Gloucester, &c.

Bristol:

Bristol :—Bristol.

Newport :—NEWPORT (capital of the province), and Portsmouth, in Rhode Island; Tiverton, Fagland, and Little Compton.

Kings :—Richmond, Exeter, Kingston, Greenwich, &c.

COUNTIES, &c. of CONNECTICUT.

Windham :—Windham, Mansfield, Ashford, Killingsley, Pomfret, Canterbury, Voluntown, Plainfield, &c.

Litchfield :—Litchfield, Woodbury, New Milford, Kent, Cornwall, Sharon, Wiatiaik or Salisbury, &c.

Hartford :—Hartford, New Cambridge, Farmington, Hadham, Middletown, Glastenbury, Wethersfield, Willington, Somers, Windsor, Simsbury, &c.

Newhaven :—Newhaven, Milford, Brentford, Guildford, Derby, Durham, &c.

Fairfield :—Fairfield, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Ridgefield, Newtown, Danbury, New Fairfield, &c.

New London :—New London, Groton, Stonington, Norwich, Lime, Killingworth, Seabrook, &c.

Capes and remarkable Points : Pemmaquid and Small points, cape Elizabeth, Black point, Porpus and Nidduk, or Bald-head capes, York Nubbles, Lock's point, Great Boar's-head, Pidgeon-hill, cape Ann, Nahant, Pullein's, Alderton, Marshfield, Gurnet, Monument, and Sandy points, Murray's cliffs, Sandy, Belingsgate, and Race points, cape Cod, Head of Pammet, cape Malebar or Sandy point, Gooseberry neck, Ninigret, Quakhoragok, Watch, Black, Pine-staves, and Hemunnasset points, Sachem's head, South, Long-neck, and Elizabeth points, and Lion's Tongue; also cape Poge, and Gay Head, in Martha's Vineyard.—Bays chiefly to be noted are, Penobscot, Kennebek, Kasko, Sawko, Wells, the great bay of Massachusetts, Cape-Cod bay (including Plymouth bay), Buzzard's and Narraganset-bay; to which may be added the Devil's-Belt, or Long-Island Sound, between that island and Connecticut, and Winipissiocket pond, in New Hampshire. The coves and inferior bays are, Merry-meeting, Mussequoif, and Harrafekket bays, Broad cove, Exeter and Little bays, Sandy cove, Nahant, Oyster-River, Falmouth, and Nashtukket bays, Clark's cove, Nahantik, Guilford, and Fairfield bays, Tarpaulin and Homes's coves, in Martha's Vineyard island, and Tarpaulin cove in Nashawn island (one of those called Elizabeth.—Harbours: Winter, Piscataqua, cape Ann, Boston, Konohasset, Scituate, Yarmouth, Slokum's, New-haven, Ship, and Old Town (in Martha's Vineyard island).—Rivers: Penobscot, St. George, Kennebek, Sagadahok, Royals, Presumskot, Sawko (including the Piguakket and Ossippa rivers), Kennebunk, Moussum, Piscataqua, or Salmon (receiving the Fresh and Isinglass), Merrimak or Sturgeon (receiving the Sowhook, Sunhook, Piskaquoag, Nashuay,

Concord, Downson, &c.) Ipswich, Mystick, Charles (receiving the Motherbrook), Titiquit, Pantukket or Narraganset (receiving the Nasquiaukket), Thames (receiving the Quenebaugh, Shatukket, &c.), Connecticut (receiving the Mohawks in New-York) Agawam, including the North and South branch of Westfield, Farmington, &c.), Stratford (including the Shepoag and Narraguntad rivers), &c. of which the Connecticut, Thames, Patuxet, Merrimack, Piscataqua, Sawko, Casco, Kennebeck, and Penobscot, are the largest.

Notwithstanding New England lies considerably more Southward than the mother-country, it has a winter at once earlier, longer, and more severe; which is imputed to the fresh-water lakes, which, lying on the North-West, continue frozen for several months, and give a most piercing coldness to the winds. The summers far exceed in heat those of the countries in Europe lying in the same latitude. Nevertheless, the climate is healthy, and agrees well with British constitutions, the sky being generally clear, though the winds are very boisterous in winter. The longest day is about 15 hours, and the shortest about 9. The Eastern shore of America, in general, bordering on the Atlantic Ocean, is low; but it rises gradually into hills within land. The North-Eastern parts of New-England are rocky and mountainous; but towards the South the soil is very good, and round Massachusetts-Bay in particular it is equal to any in England. Its principal kinds of trees are, oak, walnut, ash, excellent fir, beech, pine, cypress, cedar, elm, hazel, chestnut, sassafras, and samach, &c. producing tar, rosin, turpentine, gums, and balm. The country seems unfavourable for the several sorts of European grain; but maize, or Indian corn, thrives here exceedingly. Peaches, apples, and all the fruits of England, grow to the greatest perfection; and hemp and flax are raised in large quantities. Iron, also, is found in several parts. The produce of the fruit-trees is surprisingly great: seven or eight hundred fine peaches are commonly produced on one tree; and one apple-tree has yielded no less than seven barrels of cyder in one season. Cyder and spruce-beer is the common table-drink, the latter of which is made with a small quantity of molasses and the tops of the spruce fir. Of the maize, or Indian corn, the lower sort of people make bread; and likewise malt, which they brew into a beer that is not to be despised. The firs grow to an amazing size, and furnish the royal navy with masts.

The animals are, the common light-grey, and the large black moose-deer; European cattle, horses, and hogs, which, (it is here observed once for all) abound in most of the provinces, particularly the Southern, with some sheep also; beavers, rabbits, and the generality of quadrupeds mentioned in the account of Canada. Great numbers of dappers, heath-cocks, herons, storks, pigeons, turkies, partridges, geese, &c. &c. On the coasts, the whale-bone, spermaceti, fin-backed, serag, and bunch whales; cod, mackarel, &c. &c. and

and the whale-killer, from 20 to 30 feet long. In the rivers abundance of various species of fish, tedious to enumerate.

In New Hampshire are the White Mountains, so high as to be a land-mark for seamen many leagues at sea.

It may be observed here, that the quadrupeds of America in general are not of so large a form as their corresponding species in the other quarters of the world. The disparity appears very striking on a comparison of the American tiger, or congar, which is seldom more than three feet in length, with the tigers of Bengal, some of which are six feet long, exclusive of the tail. There is no beast in America which possesses the least resemblance of the lions of Africa; nor have the leopard and panther of Asia any other than the very mean representatives of the tarquar and tarquarette. But the fecundity of the quadrupeds in America as much exceeds that of the quadrupeds of other parts, as these are superior to the former in bulk. The increase of some is in triple proportion. For instance, the goat, if transferred to the South of America, very much degenerates in its young, with respect to size; but then, instead of producing one or two, it multiplies by five or six at a time.

NEW YORK,

IS bounded on the North by Canada; on the East by New England; on the South by the Atlantic Ocean and New Jersey; and on the West and North-West by Pennsylvania and Canada. Latitude between 40 and 45° N. long. between 72 and 76° W. from London; 300 miles long, and 150 broad.

LONG-ISLAND, in this province, is 100 miles long, and 25 broad.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

New-York :—NEW YORK,
the cap. of the province
Albany :—Albany, Schenectady.

Ulster :

Dutchess :

Orange :—Orange.

Westchester :—Westchester,
Bedford, East Chester.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

In Long-Island.

King's :—Huntingdon,
Smithtown.

Queen's :—Jamaica.

Suffolk :—Southampton.

Staten Island, or County of

Richmond :—Richmond.

The city of New York, being situated on the point of Manhattan island, commands a fine prospect of waters, the Jerseys, Long and Staten islands, &c. and contains near 3000 houses. In the Broadway-street most of the houses have a row of trees before them; the generality of the other streets are narrow. One great natural evil is, the inhabitants being obliged to fetch their water from springs at a considerable distance from the town.

Capes

Capes: May, Sandy-Hook, and Montock points—**Straights:** the Narrows and Hell-Gate. Through the latter, about 80 yards wide, it is extremely dangerous sailing, on account of the different rapid currents; for if a vessel gets into any but the right one, she inevitably runs on a shoal of rocks on one side, or is whirled round and swallowed up by a dreadful vortex on the other.—**Rivers:** Hudson's or the North, Mohawk, and Sorrel. On the Mohawk is a large cataract, called the Cohoes, which is said to fall 70 feet perpendicularly. In Hudson's river, which rises in Canada, and runs South quite thro' this province, are many good harbours.

The climate of New York is somewhat more moderate than that of New England, and agrees with all constitutions. The soil, in general, is extremely good; it produces the same kinds of trees found in the last mentioned province, grain of all sorts, and great variety of English fruits, particularly the Newtown pippin. Iron is found in great quantities.

The fertility of Long Island is only to be exceeded by the Jerseys in all North America; and most of the opulent inhabitants of New York city have country seats in it. About 16 miles from the W. end opens a large plain, called Salisbury Plain, between 20 and 30 miles long, and four or five broad. There grows not a tree on it, and (it seems) never did; so that this is a singular curiosity in America, which strangers passing near are always shewn.

The animals here are much the same as in New England, and cattle and hogs abound. The fish more particularly plentiful in the rivers are, black-fish, sea-bass, sheeps-heads, rock-fish, lobsters, &c. &c. all excellent.

NEW JERSEY,

IS bounded on the North by New-York; on the East and South-East by the Atlantic Ocean; on the West and South-West by the Delaware river and bay. Latitude between 39 and 42° N. long. between 74 and 76° W. from London; 160 miles long, and 60 broad.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

East District.

Middlesex :—PERTH-AMBOY,
New Brunswick, Woodbridge
Monmouth :—Freehold.
Essex :—Elizabeth, Newark.
Somerset :
Bergen :—Bergen.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

West District.

Burlington :—BURLINGTON.
Glocester :—Glocester.
Salem :—Salem.
Cumberland :—Hopewell.
Cape May :
Hunterdon :—Trenton.
Morris :—Morris.
Suffex.

Perth-Amboy is delightfully situated on a neck of land, included between the rivers Raritan and Amboy, and a large open bay.

Burlington

Burlington stands very pleasantly on the Delaware.

Brunswic is remarkable for the number of its beautiful women.

Capes, &c.—Cape May; Delaware bay; Perth-Amboy harbour; Delaware, Raritan, and Passaic rivers. The falls on this last deserve particular mention. From a considerable width, the channel becomes contracted to that of about 40 yards, and the current runs with great rapidity till it is crossed by a deep chasm or cleft: here it falls, in one entire sheet, 70 feet perpendicularly; and one end of the cleft being closed up, the water rushes out at the other with incredible vehemence, in an acute angle, to its former direction and breadth. Thirty yards above this is another fall, over rocky ledges, each 2 or 3 feet perpendicular.

The climate is temperate; and the soil, which is a kind of red slate, so exceedingly rich, that, in a short time after it has been turned up, and exposed to air and moisture, it is converted into a species of marle. The soil of the Holy Land is said to be of a similar nature. The province produces vast quantities of grain, hemp, flax, hay, Indian corn, &c. &c. There are also in this and the Southern colonies abundance of wild vines, of three or four species, different from the European; but no wine has yet been made from them worthy of notice.

Colonel Peter Schuyler has, in his garden, a fine collection of citrons, oranges, limes, lemons, balsams of Peru, aloes, pomegranates, and other tropical plants; and, in his park, several English and American deer, with some elks or moose deer. Here are also valuable copper-mines, in particular those belonging to Colonel John Schuyler; and rich veins of ore. But the country abounds with mosquitoes.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A,

Together with the COUNTIES on DELAWARE,

IS bounded on the North by part of New York; on the East by Delaware river, dividing it from New Jersey; on the South by Maryland; and on the West by Virginia, and partly by Canada. Latitude between 38 and 43° N. long. between 74 and 81° W. from London; 300 miles long, 240 broad.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

Philadelphia: PHILADELPHIA

German-town, Dublin,

Francfort.

Chester: Chester.

Bucks: Newtown, Bristol.

Berks: Reading.

Northampton: Easton. [ses.

Lancaster: Lancaster, 500 hou-

York: York.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

Cumberland: Carlisle, 500 hou-

ses.

Bedford:

On Delaware.

Newcastle: Newcastle.

Kent: Dover.

Suffex: Lewes.

The

The city of Philadelphia (which cannot but strike every one with wonder, who reflects, that, 60 years ago, the spot on which it stands was a desert) was planned by the exalted genius of the famous William Penn. It is situated on a tongue of land, a few miles above the confluence of the Delaware and Schuikill rivers, contains 3000 houses, and 18 or 20,000 inhabitants, and is two miles long, and three quarters broad. The streets are laid out, with the strictest regularity, in parallel lines, intersected by others at right angles, and are handsomely built, well lighted, and watched : a pavement of broad stones runs along each side for foot passengers.

Capes, &c.—Cape Hinlopen ; Delaware bay and harbours ; Delaware, Susquehanna, and Schuikill rivers. The Delaware, whose source is far North in the country of the Indians, called Iroquois, is navigable 120 miles above Philadelphia, and would be so farther, but for a cataract in it above Bristol, which hinders vessels from proceeding higher ; at its mouth it is upwards of three miles broad, and more than one at Philadelphia : the Schuikill and Susquehanna rivers rise also in the country of the Iroquois, and are navigable far up the country : add to this, that the largest fleets may ride in safety in the creeks and coves with which Delaware bay abounds ; so that this province is happily circumstanced to carry on a foreign as well as inland trade.

The climate of Pennsylvania, during winter, is in general milder than that of the Northern colonies, in proportion as it lies more to the South : nevertheless, from December to March, the cold is frequently so intense as to freeze over the Delaware, though a very broad river. On the other hand, in the summer season, the months of July, August, and September, would be almost intolerable, were it not for the frequent cool breezes which moderate the heat. The soil is extremely strong and fertile, producing spontaneously an infinite variety of trees, flowers, fruits, and plants, of different sizes ; and the mountains are enriched with ore. This province is cultivated to greater perfection than any other ; and in this state yields not only great plenty, but great variety of grain ; also flax-seed, hemp, and various other articles.

It must be observed here, that in the Southern the timber is not so proper for ship-building as in the Northern colonies ; for in a comparative degree as they lie nearer to the South, the wood becomes less and less compact, and splits easily ; a quality, however, that, though rendering it improper for ships, makes it fitter for staves. The land abounds with cattle, and the rivers with fish.

M A R Y L A N D.

THIS province is bounded on the North by Pennsylvania ; on the East by the counties of Delaware and Atlantic Ocean ; on the South by Virginia ; and on the West by the Apalachian mountains. Latitude betw. 38 and 40° N. long. between 75 and 80° W. from London ; 140 miles long, and 135 broad.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

East Division.

Worcester: Princess Anne.

Somerset: Snow-hill.

Dorset: Dorset, or Dorchester.

Talbot: Oxford.

Cecil:

Queen-Ann's: Queen's-Town.

Kent: Chester.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.

West Division.

St. Mary's: St. Mary's.

Charles: Bristol.

Prince George: Mastercourt.

Calvert: Abington.

Arundel: ANNAPOLIS.

Baltimore: Baltimore.

Frederic.

Annapolis, the capital, is a small neat town, of about 150 houses ; but the streets are irregular, and not paved. 'Till 1694 it was called Severn. It is situated on a peninsula formed by the river Severn and two small creeks, and affords a beautiful prospect of Chesapeak-bay, and of the Eastern shore beyond it ; so that fields, wood, and water, conspire to variegate the scene. This town was made a port of entry in 1664, and the chief seat of justice in 1699.

In this province is Chesapeak-bay, including many creeks. Numerous rivers intersect this province, the chief of which are, the Patowmac, Pocomac, Patuxent, Patapsico, Cheptonk, Susquehannah, Severn, Sassafras, &c.

Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, enjoy peculiar commercial advantages from their numerous harbours, creeks, and large navigable rivers ; but these, being destitute of fortifications, cannot but prove of equal disadvantage in a war, if the enemy be master of the adjacent seas, who will have it in his power, by these means, to carry desolation into the best settled parts of the several countries ; as unhappily may be too soon experienced.

The staple commodity of Maryland is the Oronooko sort of tobacco, which is much stronger than the Virginian, and for this reason preferred in the Eastern and Northern parts of Europe.

The climate of Maryland, on the whole, is extremely fine. Autumn and spring are delightful seasons, and in winter the weather is so mild as scarcely to require a fire ; yet now and then there are some extremely sharp days ; and it is not uncommon, after a warm day, to have such sudden and severe cold as to freeze over a river a mile broad in one night. The summer brings violent heats, and frequent and furious gusts, with terrible thunder and lightning, whence, however, little mischief

mischieff happens to the buildings, owing to the electrical rods which are affixed to most of them. The natural productions of the soil, which, for the most part, is good, are trees and flowers of infinitely various sorts, with great quantities of fruits and medicinal plants ; particularly, tobacco and Indian corn ; pigeon-berry and rattle-snake root, much esteemed in ulcerous and pleuritical disorders ; strawberries, hiccory nuts, mulberries, chesnuts, myrtles, cedars, cypresses, sugar-trees, different sorts of fir-trees, seven or eight kinds of oak, red-flowering maples, sassafras-trees, dog-woods, acacias, scarlet-flowering chesnuts, red-buds, flowering poplars, magnolias, fringe-trees, umbrellas, chamædaphnes (reckoned the most beautiful of all flowering shrubs), pacoons, yellow jessamines, may-apples, atamusco lilies, &c. &c. &c.

V I R G I N I A,

IS bounded on the North-East by the river Patowmack, dividing it from Maryland ; on the East by the Atlantic Ocean ; on the South by Carolina ; and on the West and North-West by the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. Latitude between 36 and 40° N. long. between 75 and 90° W. from London ; 750 miles long, and 240 broad.

COUNTIES and TOWNS.	<i>Dinwiddie :</i>	<i>King George :</i>
<i>Amherst :</i>	<i>Essex or Rappahanock</i>	<i>Gloucester :</i>
<i>Henrico :</i>	<i>York :</i>	<i>Princess Anne :</i>
<i>Richmond :</i>	<i>Prince Edward :</i>	<i>Warwick :</i>
<i>Williamsburg :</i>	<i>Lancaster :</i>	<i>Albemarle :</i>
<i>Prince William :</i>	<i>Fairfax :</i>	<i>Caroline :</i>
<i>Spotsylvania :</i>	<i>Goochland :</i>	<i>New-Kent :</i>
<i>Charlotte :</i>	<i>Cumberland :</i>	<i>Southampton :</i>
<i>James City :—WIL-</i>	<i>Brunswick :</i>	<i>Lunenburg :</i>
<i>LIAMSBURGH,</i>	<i>Fauquier :</i>	<i>Culpepper :</i>
<i>James-town.</i>	<i>Frederick :</i>	<i>King William :</i>
<i>Northumberland :</i>	<i>Middlesex :</i>	<i>Halifax :</i>
<i>Nansemond :</i>	<i>Northampton :</i>	<i>Suffex :</i>
<i>Buckingham :</i>	<i>Hampshire :</i>	<i>Norfolk :—Norfolk-</i>
<i>King and Queen :</i>	<i>Prince George :</i>	<i>borough.</i>
<i>Stafford :</i>	<i>Augusta :</i>	<i>Amelia :</i>
<i>Mecklinburg :</i>	<i>Surry :</i>	<i>Elizabeth :—Eliza-</i>
<i>Loudoun :</i>	<i>Bedford :</i>	<i>beth-town.</i>
<i>Louisa :</i>	<i>Isle of W'ght :</i>	<i>Chesterfield :</i>
	<i>Hanover :</i>	<i>Pittsylvania.</i>

Williamsburgh, the capital town, is situated between two creeks, the one falling into James, the other into York river, contains about 200 houses, and has the advantage of being free from moskitoes. Here is a college, towards endowing which King William and Queen Mary gave 2000l. and 20,000 acres of land, with a duty of 1d. per pound on all tobacco exported to the other plantations.

Capes

Capes of Virginia, called Henry and Charles, opening a passage into the bay of Chesapeake, one of the largest and finest in the world, being 18 miles broad at its mouth, and 7 or 8 throughout a length of near 300 miles which it runs N. up the country, and receiving from the western shore several large navigable rivers, and a few smaller streams both from thence and from the peninsula which divides the bay from the Atlantic. Rivers: James, York, or Pamunky, Rappahanock, and Patowmack, whose noble and majestic appearance cannot, perhaps, be exceeded in the known world; for they not only admit large ships into the very heart of the country, but abound with so many creeks, and receive such a multitude of inferior yet navigable rivers, that Virginia seems unrivalled throughout the universe for convenience of inland navigation; indeed, it has been observed, and with reason, that every planter here has a river at his door. This must render the conveyance of commodities extremely easy.

The climate, &c. of Virginia corresponds with that of Maryland in almost every particular. For an elegant and beautiful appearance, Virginia is outvied by no country in the world. European fruits succeed in it wonderfully; and peaches, in particular, abound to such a degree, that they are given as food to the hogs. Here are also iron, copper, and coal mines.

In the forests are abundance of turkies, woodcocks, pheasants, partridges, and hares. In the woods, variety of birds for singing and beauty; the mocking-bird, red-bird or nightingale, blue-bird, yellow-bird, humming-bird, baltimore-bird, summer-duck, turtle, &c. In the marshes, forster, snipes, and various kinds of ducks, especially the American shell-drake and blue-wing. Innumerable insects and reptiles; great variety of butterflies, and such swarms of fire-flies, that on a summer's evening the air is illumined by them. Rattlesnakes and vipers, whose bites are exceeding venomous; the black-snake, wampum-snake, bead-snake, garter-snake, &c. all which are harmless. Two curious species of frogs, viz. the bull-frog, of a prodigious size, and very sonorous; the other is small and green, and found in most gardens, sitting on the boughs of trees. Various kinds of quadrupeds; opossums, raccoons, deer, beavers, wolves, panthers, bears, buffaloes, mountain-cats, &c. Incredible numbers of shad, sturgeon, white perch, oysters, &c. &c.

CAROLINA, (North and South) with GEORGIA,

ARE bounded on the North by Virginia; on the East by the Atlantic Ocean; on the South by the River St. Mary, separating Georgia from Florida; and on the West by the Mississippi river. Lat. betw. 31 and 37° N. long. betw. 76 and 91° W. from London; 700 miles long, and 380 broad.

NORTH-

NORTH-CAROLINA. COUNTIES, with the TOWNS.

Anson. Halifax.
 Bladen. Johnston.
 Beaufort. Mecklenburgh.
 Brunswick. New-Hanover.
 Bute. Northampton.
 Carteret. Orange.
 Curritock. Onslow.
 Craven. Pasquotank.
 Cutham. Perquimons.
 Chowan. Rowan.
 Dobbs. Surry.
 Duplin. Tyrrel.
 Edgecombe. Tryon.
 Granville. Pitt.
 Guilford. Wake.
 Hyde. Bertie.

TOWNS: Bath, Brunswick,
 Edenton, Halifax, Hills-
 borough, Newbern, Sa-
 lisbury, Wilmington, &c.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

Berkeley: CHARLES-TOWN, Dor-
 chester, Shem-town.
 Colleton: Jacksonburgh.
 Granville: Beaufort, Port-Royal,
 Purrysburgh, New-Radnor.
 Craven: George-town, Winyaw.

GEORGIA.

Districts.

Savannah: SAVANNAH, Ebene-
 zer.

Halifax: Queensborough.

Augusta: Augusta, Wrightsbo-
 rough

Southern: Sunbury, Frederica.

Charles-Town, which is the capital and seat of government of South-Carolina, and for size, beauty, and trade, vies with the first towns in America, is advantageously situated at the confluence of the two navigable rivers Ashley and Cowper, in a most delightful neighbourhood; the streets are wide and strait, intersecting each other at right angles; and the houses, some of which are of brick, and others of wood, amounting to about 1000, are well and elegantly built.

Savannah, the capital of Georgia, is well situated both for a foreign and inland trade, lying about 10 miles from the sea, on a fine river of the same name, on which 200 miles higher stands also Augusta, which carries on a considerable trade with the Indians.

Capes: Hatteras, Look-out, and Fear, in North-Carolina; and cape Carteret in South-Carolina. Harbours: Roanoke, and Pamlico, in North-Carolina; Winyaw or George-town, Charles-town, and Port-Royal, in S. Carolina; the mouths of the rivers Savannah and Altamaha, in Georgia. Rivers: Roanoke or Albemarle, Pamlico, Neus, Cape Fear or Clarendon, in N. Carolina; Pedee, Santee, in S. Carolina; Savannah, Altamaha or George, and St. Mary's, in Georgia, the last dividing it from Florida; all which rise in the Appalachian mountains, and run into the Atlantic Ocean. On the back parts are the Cherokees, Yafous, Mobbille, Apalachicola, Pearl, &c, &c. the two first of which fall into the Mississippi river, the others into the Gulf of Mexico.

The harbour of Charles-Town has a bar at its entrance, which excludes vessels of more than 200 tons; otherwise it is very good: but in North-Carolina there is not one harbour which can be called good; and, indeed, along all these coun-
tries,

tries, the Atlantic Ocean itself is so shallow near the Eastern coasts, which it washes, that no large ships can approach them, but at a few certain places.

The climate of these three provinces is nearly alike, and much the same as that of Virginia; excepting that the summers are longer and more intensely hot, and the winters shorter and milder; so that tho' now and then a sudden cold comes on, the frosts are never strong enough to resist the noon-day warmth. The soil is various: near the sea it is marshy, lying low; and, indeed, the lands of Carolina are a perfect plain for 80 miles within land, scarcely a pebble being to be found; however, in proportion to the distance from the sea, their fertility increases, till they are exceeded by none, either for that or picturesque beauty. The chief productions are, indigo, olive, vine, hickory, oak, walnut, orange, citron, pine, cyprès, sassafras, cassia, and white mulberry trees for silk, worms; sarsaparilla, and pines yielding rosin, turpentine, tar, and pitch; also a tree distilling an oil, very efficacious in the cure of wounds, and another yielding a balm nearly equal to that of Mecca; rice, tobacco, wheat, Indian corn, barley, oats, pease, beans, hemp, flax, and cotton; great quantities of honey, of which are made excellent spirits, and mead as good as Malaga sack. The great staple commodities are indigo, rice, and produce of the pine.

Animals much the same as in Virginia. The humming-bird is the smallest and most beautiful of all the feathered race, has a plumage of green, crimson, and gold colours, and lives chiefly by suction of the sweets and essences of flowers. The motion of its wings is incredibly swift, and produces a humming noise (whence it has its name) not unlike that of a humble-bee. All attempts to bring them alive to England have failed.

From these colonies some samples of silk have been produced equal to the Italian; but the sudden changes from heat to cold, which sometimes happen here, disagree with the worms. The making of wine has been of late years introduced; and, with proper management, it is thought, cannot but succeed.

F L O R I D A, (*East and West*).

THIS province is bounded on the North by Georgia, and the 31st deg. of N. lat. on the East by the Atlantic Ocean; on the South by the Gulph of Mexico; and on the W. by the Mississippi river, and the lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain. Lat. betw. 25 and 31° N. long. betw. 80 and 91° W. from London; 500 miles long, and 440 broad.

GOVERNMENTS and TOWNS.

EAST-FLORIDA: — ST. AUGUSTIN.

WEST-FLORIDA: — PENSACOLA.

St.

St. Augustin is a little fortified town of about 900 houses, including the suburbs, and the residence of the Governor. Among the inhabitants, who are of all colours, are certain Greeks from the Archipelago.

Pensacola is built on a bay receiving several rivers, in which ships may lie in safety. Nothing grows in the environs, the soil of which consists of a dry sand, but pine-trees fit for masts. The city is reputed to be unhealthy, which the inhabitants endeavour to remedy, by exposing their houses as much as possible to the sea-breezes, and introducing a circulation of fresh air.

Unreasonable prejudices have been imbibed by many persons to the disparagement of these countries, on account of their supposed insalubrity. The Spaniards were accustomed to repair from Vera Cruz, the Havannah, &c. to East Florida, whilst in their possession, for the benefit of their health; and it is certain, that, since it has become an English colony, the 9th regiment was 20 months on duty at St. Augustin's, and along the coast, without losing a single man. Indeed, there is reason to believe that the air of both the Floridas is, in many parts, particularly beneficial to consumptive constitutions.

Capes: Blanco, Samblas, Ancote, St. Augustin, Canaveral, and Florida, terminating the British possessions in North America to the Southward. Bays: Charles, Spiritu Sancto, Apalaxy, Joseph, Dauphin, Pensacola, Mobile, Ascension, and St. Bernard's. Principal large rivers: St. John's, Apalachicola, Mobbille, and the Mississippi. This last is known to run a course of upwards of 2000 miles, every where free from shoals and cataracts, except at its mouths, where it is choaked with sands and shoals, denying admittance to vessels of any considerable burthen: nay, at the principal entrance, there is a bar, with no more than from 12 to 17 feet of water over it, though within there is to the depth of 100. It flows with a gentle current, except at a certain season, when, like the Nile, it overflows its banks, and becomes extremely rapid.

East Florida, though the Southernmost of the British North American colonies, is rendered mild by the frequent rains and fresh breezes from the sea. The soil, except in the middle, is very low. Among the trees and shrubs, for building or furniture, are, the different pines, spruce-fir, ever-green oak, chesnut-oak, mahogany, several species of walnut-tree, maple, ash, &c. and mulberry-trees in utmost luxuriancy, larger than in any other part of America: for dying, here are fustic, braziletto, logwood, &c. for physic, the sassafras and Tolu trees; for gardens, the magnolia, tulip-laurel, tupelo-tree, &c. besides the myrtle-wax-shrub, senna-shrub, opuntick or cochineal fig-tree. The greatest part of American fruits are found also in East-Florida; and almost all those of Europe, particularly oranges and lemons, succeed in it to admiration. Of maize, which is a grand natural production, here are two harvests in a year; and the shores and overflowed lands

lands are covered with the plant barilla or kali, of which the Spaniards make pearl-ashes.

The climate of West-Florida, near the sea, is very hot, damp, and unhealthy; but, in the inland parts, perfectly wholesome. The shores abound with pearl-oysters; and the strands, which take up a great depth, with ambergris, and a kind of pitch brought by the winds. In the high grounds are mines of copper, iron, lead, and coal; and orpiment and sandarac in various parts.

POSTSCRIPT.

THE unhappy differences which have arisen between the Mother Country and the chief of her American Colonies are too recent and well known to need a recital, and are likewise beyond the compass and design of our undertaking. We shall only observe, that we deeply lament the rise and progress of this unnatural contest, and sincerely wish that our King and legislators may be inspired with wisdom, in aid of their councils, so that they may be able to avert the impending ruin which threatens us on all sides, and restore peace and commerce to Great-Britain and her Colonies, upon a solid and permanent foundation.

As these differences took their rise principally in the province of Massachusetts Bay, we shall conclude this epitome with a few particulars relative to the Inhabitants, Religion, Trade, &c. of this country, before the commencement of the present hostilities.

The inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay are computed to amount to 400,000 souls, 80,000 of whom are capable of bearing arms. They are become much more liberal in sentiment than they were formerly, when all their moral notions were derived from the books of Moses. The gentry of both sexes are by no means destitute of good-nature and hospitality; but these good qualities are always accompanied with such an air of stiffness and reserve, as cannot fail to mar the pleasing effects which otherwise would result from them. The women are well-featured, with fair complexions, but have bad teeth. The lower class of people are equally formal, yet inquisitive, in regard to strangers, to a degree of impertinence scarcely to be borne with.

The established religion is a refinement upon that of the Independents, the professors of it styling themselves Congregationalists: however, there are great numbers of people of other persuasions, particularly of the church of England, whose moderate principles gain ground daily; yet in Boston there are thirteen or fourteen meeting houses, and only three churches.

The

The Massachusetts imported dry goods from Great-Britain, money from Holland, slaves from Africa, and sugars, coffee, and molasses, from the West-Indies. With the money they paid their creditors in England; the sugars they exported to Holland; the rum to Africa; the slaves, lumber, and provisions, to the West-Indies; and the dry goods to the neighbouring colonies. Add to this traffic, that they built annually a great number of vessels, which they loaded with salt-fish, whale-bone, fish-oil, pitch, and tar; and, having disposed of the cargoes, sold the ships likewise. They have a few other manufactures, of which spirits, iron, and beaver-hats, are the chief. Throughout the colonies they attempt to make woollens; but whilst their wool continues as coarse and as short as at present, they will never bring them to any tolerable degree of perfection.

The trade of the Colonies in general is laid under such restraint by Parliament as seems necessary for the advantage of Great-Britain. They are obliged by law to land Spanish and Portugal wines, &c. in England, subject to duties for re-shipping for America. The exportation of hats, or woollen goods, made in the Colonies, is prohibited, even from one to the other; and they are forbid also to erect plating or slitting mills, or steel furnaces, to secure their application to the mother-country for the manufactures which require them. The *enumerated goods*, of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the British Colonies, viz. tobacco, cotton-wool, indigo, ginger, fustic or other dying woods, melasses, hemp, copper-ore, beaver-skins or other furs, pitch, tar, turpentine, masts, yards, bowsprits, sugar, rice, coffee, pimento, cocoa-nuts, whale-fins, raw silk, hides and skins, pot-ashes, pearl-ashes, are not to be laden on board any vessel, until the master, with one surety, give bond that the said goods shall be landed in some British colony, or in Great-Britain, except rice, which may be exported to the Southward of Cape Finisterre, and to foreign plantations in America, on payment of the duties, and observing certain regulations prescribed by law; also sugar, to the Southward of Cape Finisterre, in like manner. Nor are the *non-enumerated goods*, viz. all other goods and commodities of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the British Colonies, to be laden on board any vessel, until bond is given by the master, and one surety, that the said goods shall not be carried to any part of Europe Northward of Cape Finisterre, unless to Great-Britain or Ireland, except *lumber*, which may be landed in the Madeiras, the Western Islands, or any part of Europe Southward of Cape Finisterre, on giving bond as above.

America at large is supposed to contain 14,110,874 square miles, 60 to a degree; which are 3,342,051 more than Asia; 4,456,067 more than Africa; and 9,654,809 more than Europe.